



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Human Services Agency



Date: October 20 2015
Board Meeting Date: November 17, 2015
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Iliana Rodriguez, Director, Human Services Agency

Subject: Amendment with StarVista for Family Stabilization Services

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing an amendment to the agreement with StarVista to increase funding for the continuation of Family Stabilization services through the term of the agreement; the term remains the same, March 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, increasing the amount by \$460,000 to an amount not to exceed \$560,000.

BACKGROUND:

The passage of AB74 modified the Welfare and Institutions Code and expanded CalWORKs services by adding a family Stabilization (FS) element which will provide extensive case management and clinical services to families which are experiencing significant barriers that are preventing participation in employment or education activities. AB74 mandated Child Welfare Department's to design and implement the Family Stabilization program intended to address and assist in removing any barriers CalWORKs Employment Services individuals/families are experiencing which prevents participation in employment or education activities.

StarVista is an established agency that provides case management to Family Stabilization (FS) individuals/families by utilizing an evidence- based home visiting model to establish and develop relationships with such individuals/families necessary to identify and address their barriers to participation in the Welfare-to-Work program. StarVista assigns staff that is culturally and linguistically diverse and well-trained in providing the intensive case management services that are needed for the administration of FS services. StarVista has experience providing very similar services through its Differential Response (DR) contract with Children and Family Services. StarVista has established relationships/networks with many other resources for which a client/family may need referrals.

Many CalWORKs clients active in the child welfare system qualify for FS. StarVista provides Differential Response (DR) case management services which aligns perfectly with the needs of FS. It was determined that because FS is a new program and given StarVista's experience in providing similar services, utilizing StarVista's experience and services would be a way to implement the FS pilot quickly (eliminating further delays in staff recruitment, case manager training, etc.) and help determine the future model of the program.

On June 19, 2015, the Human Services Agency (HSA) entered into an agreement #73200-15-D015 with StarVista for FS services in the amount of \$100,000 and term of March 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. This agreement was funded through CalWORKs for FY 2014-15. The amount of \$100,000 was to cover the initial start-up costs of the pilot phase (March 1, 2015 – June 30, 2015) to meet the implementation timeline mandated by AB74 and to conduct an evaluation to determine the level of service required by HSA to meet the needs of CalWORKs clients referred to the FS program. The evaluation identified the need for additional mental health services.

Subsequently HSA received additional funding through the CalWORKs allocation in the amount of \$460,000 to fund Family Stabilization services from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. The additional funding expands the program to include mental health services.

DISCUSSION:

This amendment adds funds for the continuation of FS services, the cost of two (2) full-time case managers and the addition of two (2) full-time clinician's to address the mental health needs of FS clients through the term of the agreement. As the FS program continues to evolve, CWES staff will coordinate with StarVista and continue to monitor and adjust levels of service as appropriate to meet the FS needs of clients. Additional appropriations will ensure that StarVista can continue to provide the most direct and comprehensive services and StarVista will act as a single point-of-contact for FS services. The amendment captures all proposed costs of services as identified in an estimated budget submitted to CWES staff by StarVista.

The resolution contains the standard provision allowing amendment of the County's fiscal obligations by a maximum of \$25,000 (in aggregate).

The amendment and resolution have been reviewed and approved by County Counsel as to form.

Approval of this amendment to the agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 of a Prosperous Community by improving family functioning in 70% of engaged families attaining complete or partial service plan goals when measured by pre and post assessments; and by ensuring that families are connected to community resources that address needs at case closing. Families who become engaged and receive services are expected to transition successfully in Welfare-to-Work activities and services.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):

Measure	FY 2014- 15 Actual	FY 2015-16 Projected	FY 2016-17 Projected
Percent of families receiving FS services that will meet or exceed the goals identified in their service plans.	*Data unavailable	70%	70%
Percent of engaged families connected to community resources addressing family needs at case closing.	*Data unavailable	70%	80%

*Too early to gather data since duration of program is 6 months and contact with families only began 3 months prior to fiscal year-end.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The term of the agreement remains the same, March 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. The amendment adds \$460,000 in FY 2015-16 based on the negotiated service levels of the new and expanding Family Stabilization program. The new total value of the agreement is not to exceed \$560,000. These costs are included as part of the FY 2015-16 Adopted Budget. There is no net county cost associated with this agreement.